

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 20 and 21 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if suitably rewritten in independent form.

Claims 20 and 21 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1-19 and 22-26 are cancelled without prejudice and claims 20 and 21 have been amended. The amendments made to claims 20 and 21 do not alter the scope of these claims, nor have these amendments been made to define the invention over the prior art. Rather, the amendments to claim 20 have been made to rewrite it in independent form, and the amendments to claim 21 have been made to improve the form thereof.

In light of the amendments and the remarks set forth below, applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for immediate allowance.

The Office Action has objected to the reissue oath/declaration filed with this application as being defective. Applicant submits herewith a Supplemental Reissue Oath/Declaration which is in full compliance with all applicable requirements. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection and acceptance of the Supplemental Reissue Oath/Declaration in compliance with 37 CFR §1.67(a).

The Office Action notes that claims 24-26 are subject to restriction as being directed to an unelected invention. Applicant has cancelled withdrawn claims 24-26 without prejudice.

Claims 1-19, 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 USC §§112, 102(b), and 103(a). In an effort to expedite prosecution of this matter, Applicant has cancelled these claims, thus rendering these rejections moot.

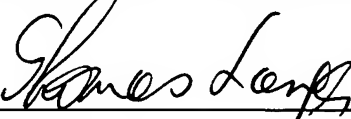
Based on all of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in proper condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable action to this effect and early passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, suggestions or objections, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned in order to facilitate reaching a resolution of any outstanding issues.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

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